

**METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFYING  
AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION  
RESOURCES IN AN ENVIRONMENT WITH  
CONTENT-BASED LINKS BETWEEN  
INFORMATION RESOURCES**

**ABSTRACT**

A system and method are provided for searching for desired items from a network of information resources. In particular, the system and method have advantageous applicability to searching for World Wide Web pages having desired content. An initial set of pages are selected, preferably by running a conventional keyword-based query, and then further selecting pages pointing to, or pointed to from, the pages found by the keyword-based query. Alternatively, the invention may be applied to a single page, where the initial set includes pages pointed to by the single page and pages which point to the single page. Then, iteratively, authoritativeness values are computed for the pages of the initial set, based on the number of links to and from the pages. One or more communities, or "neighborhoods", of related pages are defined based on the authoritativeness values thus produced. Such communities of pages are likely to be of particular interest and value to the user who is interested in the keyword-based query or the single page.